

STATE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

(Helena) - With the tax filing deadline just around the corner, the Montana Department of Revenue is offering last-minute assistance to those still working on their state income tax returns.

"Montana taxpayers are great people and, as the April 15 income tax deadline nears, we want to help them in every way we can," said Dan Bucks, Director of the Department of Revenue.

The department is providing assistance on a variety of individual income tax matters through its call center, statewide local offices, and Internet website.

Call Center

This year, the department is offering a toll free number. Taxpayers may call the department for assistance at 1-866-859-2254 between 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday - Friday. If calling from the Helena area, please dial 444-6900.

The department's call center will offer extended hours during the last few days before the tax deadline. Extended hours will be:

Monday, April 7 through Friday, April 11: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 12: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Monday, April 14 and Tuesday, April 15: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Local Offices

During income tax season, the department is offering special taxpayer assistance at selected offices statewide. A taxpayer can drop by any of eleven participating Department of Revenue offices statewide to electronically file a state income tax return (Form 2EZ, 2M or 2EC)...for free. The taxpayer should prepare the state income tax return in advance.

The following are Department of Revenue offices where electronic filing is offered. Hours are 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Property Assessment Local Offices

--Butte, 155 West Granite

--Dillon, 205 East Center Street

--Forsyth, 1200 Main Street

--Glasgow, 501 Court Square No. 7

--Kalispell, 100 Financial Drive, Suite 210 --Libby, 952 East Spruce, Suite 600 --Miles City, 1010

Main Street, Suite 7 --Missoula, 2681 Palmer Street, Suite 1 --Plentywood, 100 West Laurel

Avenue --Red Lodge, 17 West 11th Street

State Capitol Campus, Mitchell Building, Helena

--This site also offers assistance on state tax returns, in addition to free electronic filing. There will be extended hours during the last few days before the tax deadline. Extended hours will be

Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Monday, April 14, until 8 p.m.; and Tuesday, April 15, until 8 p.m.

Taxpayers also are invited to visit any of the department's local offices, located throughout the state, during normal business hours to obtain the most commonly used state tax forms, schedules and instructions.

Website

Taxpayers preferring to get information through the Internet may visit the Department of Revenue's website at mt.gov/revenue. The site contains basic income tax information, free electronic filing, downloadable forms and instructions, important updates and filing tips.

This year the department is offering free electronic filing of three key individual income tax forms--2EZ (short form), 2M (intermediate form), and 2EC (elderly homeowner/renter credit)--on its website.

"Electronic filing is a great option," said Bucks. "Taxpayers who file their tax return electronically and also request direct deposit are in the best possible situation. That combination can get your refund to you in as few as five days."

Online payment of current and back-year taxes is available on the website through Income Tax Express.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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